

Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office

Certification Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes of the Meeting

February 21, 2012

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, 2nd Floor, Providence, RI 02908 on Tuesday, February 21, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance: Charles Newton, Muraina Akinfolarin, and Louise Anderson. Members absent: Denise Correy. Also in attendance were Patsy Peterson and Dorinda Keene, staff to the CRC.

The Minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting were reviewed. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations by the MBE Compliance Office regarding the applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) Atlantic Bay Contracting Co., Inc. MBE/DBE MA**
- b) C.V.D. Paving Corporation MBE/DBE MA**
- c) D. Clifford Construction Co., Inc. MBE/DBE MA**
- d) Diversified Construction, Inc. MBE/DBE RI**

- e) I Plus Enterprize, LLC MBE/DBE RI**
- f) Lightcap Industries, Inc., d/b/a JC Supply & Mnfg. WBE/DBE CA**
- g) Ocean State Solutions, LLC WBE/DBE RI**
- h) Talevi and Haesche, LLC WBE MA**

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the DBE certification for those application firms. Motion carried unanimously. A second motion was then made and properly seconded to approve the newly certified DBE firms, as well as Talevi and Haesche, LLC, for the State of Rhode Island's MBE program. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations by the MBE Compliance Office regarding the applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) eSense, Incorporated MBE/DBE IN**

After some discussion a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification for this firm, pending documentation that they had properly registered with the RI Secretary of State's Office per RIGL 7-1.2-1401. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations by the MBE Compliance Office regarding the applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

a) Britt Page Consulting WBE/DBE RI

After some discussion, a motion was made to table this application, pending receipt of additional information. Motion carried unanimously.

Old/New Business:

NorBella, Inc. – A hearing had been scheduled regarding the application submitted on behalf of NorBella, Inc. for inclusion in the DBE and MBE programs. However, the CRC members were advised that the U.S. Small Business Administration had issued amendments to several size standards, including the applicable size standard for this firm, to become effective March 12, 2012. Therefore, after some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of this firm, effective March 12, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Crew Two, Inc. – The CRC reviewed recommendations by the MBE Compliance Office regarding the continued certification of Crew Two, Inc. based upon information submitted with their annual update. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to notify this firm of the need for a hearing based upon issues of control, dependency, affiliation, the appearance that the firm was structured in order to take advantage of the MBE and DBE programs,

and the appearance that the firm may be operating in such a manner as to subvert the MBE and DBE programs. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued regarding recent changes to 49 CFR 26 regarding Inter-state certification of DBE firms. The CRC were advised that the MBE Compliance Office is currently in discussions with the other New England region UCPs regarding this matter. The next meeting, tentatively scheduled for March, will be hosted by RIDOT. The CRC members will be advised when the date and time of the meeting is confirmed.

A discussion ensued regarding potential changes to the current certification regulations in order to potentially expedite the certification process. The CRC members will review the potential changes and will continue the discussion at the next CRC meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. The next meeting of the CRC is scheduled for March 20, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.